

## Compare roles in health

Not sure where to start with the hundreds of NHS careers? Use our compare roles section to get bite-size information on the entry requirements and training, pay and conditions, prospects and skills needed of up to three roles. If there is something that you think you could do, then get more in-depth information on the role.

Don't forget, you can also save your role comparisons by registering with us.

- **Psychological wellbeing practitioner** <sup>[1]</sup>

Psychological wellbeing practitioners (PWP) are trained to assess and support people with common mental health problems – principally anxiety disorders and depression – in the self-management of their recovery.

### Training and qualifications required

All PWP will complete an accredited IAPT training course. The courses typically consist of 45 days of academic work (one day per week) and four days supervised practice, usually distributed over an academic year. A level 6 apprenticeship standard for psychological wellbeing practitioners has also been approved for delivery. Whilst in training PWP are employed by a local IAPT service. The PWP training is open to people with a range of experience. Those with a degree will typically undertake a postgraduate certificate and those without a degree will normally undertake an equivalent graduate-level qualification. The training courses are accredited by the British Psychological Society (BPS).

### Expected working hours and salary range

Most jobs in the NHS are covered by the Agenda for Change (AfC) pay scales. This pay system covers all staff except doctors, dentists and the most senior managers. Trainees are appointed at band 4 and will usually work standard hours of 37.5 per week. Once qualified as a PWP, you would usually progress to a band 5 position. Terms and conditions can vary for employers outside of the NHS.

### Desirable skills and values

Experience of working with people with mental health problems is desirable, excellent interpersonal skills are essential. If you're applying for a role either directly in the NHS or in an organisation that provides NHS services, you'll be asked to show how you think the values of the NHS Constitution apply in your everyday work. The same will be true if you are applying

for a university course funded by the NHS.

### Prospects

As a qualified and experienced PWP you can apply for more senior posts at band 6, with additional management and specialist responsibilities.

### Related roles

- Clinical psychologist <sup>[2]</sup>
- High intensity therapist <sup>[3]</sup>
- Mental health nurse <sup>[4]</sup>
- Counselling psychologist <sup>[5]</sup>

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### Links

- [1] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/psychological-therapies/roles/psychological-wellbeing-practitioner>
- [2] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/psychological-therapies/roles/clinical-psychologist>
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- [4] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/nursing/roles-nursing/mental-health-nurse>
- [5] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/psychological-therapies/roles/counselling-psychologist>